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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. Of: SUGAWARA et al.

Serial No.: 09/707,816

Filed: November 7, 2000

For: DRIVING METHOD AND DRIVING CIRCUIT FOR COLOR...

Group: 2673

Examiner: TOM V. SHENG

DOCKET: NEC N00204

MAIL STOP - AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT E UNDER RULE 116

(Remarks Only)

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Action mailed March 23, 2004.

The allowance of claims 5-8, 13, 15 and 16 is noted, with thanks.

Turning to the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 11 and 12 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Kobayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,483,496), the Examiner's rejection is in error.

The APA teaches a reference voltage generating circuit that generates the same reference voltage for each of the gamma compensating circuits (FIG. 19). Nowhere does the APA teach gamma compensating circuits that are supplied with independently generated reference voltages for each of a red characteristic, green characteristic and blue characteristic. Kobayashi et al. does not supply the missing teachings to Applicants' APA to render obvious Applicants' gamma compensation circuit. Kobayashi et al. teaches a reference voltage control signal 100 that functions as a brightness controller to output either RGB image data (DR, DG, DB) or reference

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